Expenditure on making elementary education a fundamental right

1506. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to make elementary education a fundamental right the Union Government will have to spend over Rs. 40,000 crore; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Committee of State Education Ministers (Saikia Committee), set-up under the chairmanship of Shri Muhi Ram Saikia, the then the Minister of State for Human Resource Development (Education), to examine implications of the proppsal to make elementary education a fundamental right, has, in its report, mentioned, inter-alia, that the requirement of additional funds, both for the Centre and the States/UTs, in five years to implement the proposal, would be Rs. 40,000/- crore approximately @Rs. 8,000/- crore per annum. These are however, only tentative estimates.

UN concern on Women's Empowerment

1507. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of United Nations Population Fund have recently expressed concern at women's empowerment, female literacy, property rights, legal protection to women in courts in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the action proposed by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI):

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mismanagement in Lalit Kala Academy

1508. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of mismanagement in Lalit Kala Academy came to the notice of Government some time ago;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have recently initiated some steps for restructuring of the Academy and to have complete control over its functioning?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of complaints of mismanagement, irregularities, favouritism etc. by the then management of the Lalit Kala Academy was brought to the notice of the Government. Based on these complaints, a number of representations from Employees Union, and references from Hon'ble Members of Parliament, the Government ordered an administrative inquiry and a special audit of accounts of the Academy. The inquiry concluded that the management of the Lalit Kala Academy may be held responsible for flagrant violation of rules in order to favour .certain officials/ members of the General Council, mismanagement and misuse of the Government funds and breach of general principles of propriety and code of ethical and moral behaviour expected from the management of a National Academy.

(c) Action is on to appropriately amend the Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations of the Lalit Kala Academy and hand over the management of the Academy back to the duly constituted governing bodies early next year.The intention is> to have a proper balance between autonomy and accountability.

Reservation for OBCs in Academic Institutions

1509. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide reservation for OBCs for admission in educational and professional institutions; and

(b) if so. the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration.

Closure of Taj For Preservation

1510. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Taj Mahal is likely to be closed down soon for its preservation;

(b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has recommended immediate ban on tourists entering the Taj Mahal; and

(c) if so, by when the decision is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Amendments/Changes in the Transfer Guidelines

1511. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amendments/changes made in the July '98 meeting of the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the quidclines for transfer of teachers and principals as also in admissions; and

(b) what necessitated each of these amendments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Pre-amended Transfer Guidelines together with details of amendments/ changes made therein the meeting of the Board of Governors held on 21.7.1998 alongwith their justification are as per Annexure—[See Appendix 185, Annexure No. 41]. Similar details with regard to Admissions are as per annexural. [See Appendix 185, Annexure No. 41.]

Brain Drain

1512. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of talented students go to USA and other advanced countries for higher and specialised studies, take up lucrative jobs abroad after completing studies and .ettle over there, causing serious brain drain with preferred destination;

(b) if so, the details regarding outflow and inflow of young professionals, including doctors, engineers and computer engineers during the last ten years, indicating the recent trends and the number of those who settled there permanently; and